

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NASSAU 00042 062231Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-05 L-03 INR-07 OES-07 /037 W
-----088683 062238Z /61

P 062056Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 273

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 0042

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR
SUBJ: DRUG INTERDICTION

FOR ARA/CAR MR. RUSSELL SURBER

1. EMBASSY SENT FOLLOWING LETTER TO MINEXTAFF PERMSEC,
RUSSELL ON JAN 6 AT REQUEST OF U.S. CUSTOMS SPECIAL AGENTS
ROBERT P. NUNNERY AND HOWARD WEINTRAUB, U.S. CUSTOMS OFFICE
OF INVESTIGATIONS - MIAMI.

QTE: I AM REQUESTED TO INFORM YOU THAT ELEMENTS OF
THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE, DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND
COAST GUARD WILL MOUNT AN INTENSIVE OPERATION DURING THE LAST
THREE WEEKS OF JANUARY TO SEEK TO INTERDICT SHIPMENT OF
CONTRABAND NARCOTICS COMING FROM SOUTH AMERICA INTO THE
UNITED STATES. THE OPERATION WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN THE NAME
"STOPGAP" BY THE DEA WILL INVOLVE INCREASED SURVEILLANCE OF
THE STRAIGHTS OF FLORIDA AND THE WINDWARD AND MONA PASSAGES
AS WELL AS THE GUIAJIRA AREA OF COLUMBIA. I UNDERSTAND THAT
THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE ROYAL BAHAMAS POLICE
HAVE ALREADY BEEN BRIEFED ON THE PARAMETERS OF THE
OPERATION.

"IN ADDITION I AM INFORMED THAT IN SUPPORT OF AND
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PAGE 02 NASSAU 00042 062231Z

IN CONJUNCTION WITH OPERATION STOPGAP, THE U.S. CUSTOMS
SERVICE PLANS A SECOND OPERATION CALLED "SNOWBIRD" WHICH
WOULD NECESSITATE AN INTENSIFIED LIAISON BETWEEN U.S.
CUSTOMS OFFICIALS AND APPROPRIATE OFFICERS OF THE BAHAMIAN
CUSTOMS SERVICE AND POLICE FORCE. IN THIS REGARD U.S.
CUSTOMS HAS REQUESTED THE EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN SEEKING YOUR
MINISTRY'S APPROVAL FOR THE VISIT OF TWO U.S. CUSTOMS AGENTS

TO THE BAHAMAS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 11-29. THE CUSTOMS AGENTS, MR. JOHN WROTH AND MR. RAYMOND DOMINGUEZ, WOULD TEMPORARILY RESIDE IN FREEPORT, GRAND BAHAMAS AND INAGUA RESPECTIVELY. THEIR ASSIGNMENT IN THE BAHAMAS WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO INTELLIGENCE, AND LIAISON AND ALL INFORMATION OBTAINED WOULD BE PASSED IMMEDIATELY TO THEIR BAHAMIAN COUNTERPARTS.

"YOUR MINISTRY'S ASSISTANCE IN FACILITATING THEIR VISIT TO THE BAHAMAS WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED AND THE EMBASSY STANDS READY TO RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT WISH TO RAISE. UNQTE.

2. AGENTS INSTRUCTED BY EMBASSY NOT TO INITIATE ACTION UNTIL WE HAVE GCOB APPROVAL.

3. SIMILAR REQUEST TO GOVERNMENT OF TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS BEING MADE TO STATION AGENT ROBERT ABRAMSON IN GRAND TURK FOR SAME PERIOD AND PURPOSE.
SCHWARTZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: DRUG CONTROL
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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